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BCP 94

PROJECT (S200000044)  
EPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS.  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director  
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny  
Exemption(s):  
Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full  
☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: Consular Agent, Mr. John Patrick EGAN, assassinated in Cordoba

Mr. John Patrick EGAN fulfilled the role of a Consular Agent and was not a career diplomat. He acted as advisor to people who had problems with visas to the United States. He was an Honorary Consul and the U.S. Embassy only paid him a few household expenses and the expenses derived from the transactions handled in the issuing of visas.

By references from the members of the U.S. Embassy and of the Consul General which attended the funeral, Mr. Egan was a consul without actually being a member of the diplomatic corps.

On the day following the kidnapping, the newspapers of this city received the Communique issued by the "Montoneros" which demanded before 1900 hours the surfacing of four guerrillas. Given the shortness of the time period, one had the feeling that Mr. Egan would be killed. In the same communique the Montoneros clarified that Mr. Egan had been condemned to be shot.

Starting from the moment in which it was learned that Mr. Egan had been kidnapped, the Federal Police in cooperation with the Police of Cordoba carried out roadblock operations over all the different routes of escape from the city and at the same time carried out innumerable operations to detect the kidnappers.

The police are trying to trying to locate a cream colored Ford pick-up truck, in which Mr. Egan was carried away and a Renault 12 which was used as a support vehicle.

With the cooperation of personnel from the Office of Criminology of the Police of the Province of Cordoba, drawings were made of the faces of the two men and the woman who had entered the house of Mr. Egan in order to kidnap him.

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These drawings were published in all the daily newspapers and shown during the television news programs.

Almost simultaneously, Identification personnel from the Federal Police composed a foto of one of the kidnappers which Mrs. Egan remembered, using the "Foto Pick". This too was distributed and published by all means of media so that in some way, shape or fashion, even anonymously, someone might identify the person or his whereabouts.

Saturday\* February 28 at 2100 hours, when the police were trying intensely to locate Mr. Egan, confirming the presumption that the kidnappers were not really trying to obtain an exchange, it was learned that Egan had been thrown dead from an unidentified automobile in a deserted place. Egan was found covered with brush behind a bicycle track about 300 meters from Jesus Meria Road.

The kidnappers, (by abandonning Egan wrapped in a Montonero flag, with the fotos of Baretta and Figueroa, two extremists killed days before by the provincial police,) tried to provoke a social and political commotion at an international level.

After finding the body, the police combed the city and the surrounding area in a thorough and drastic manner. At the same time the first reports by the experts were being published and together raised some clues and other points of interests.

The police identified the body, removed his shoes and clothes and the Chief of Criminal Pathologists performed the Legal Medical Report and the first thing the following day the autopsy was performed which determined that Mr. Egan had been shot only shortly before being found around 2000 hours. Egan was killed with a shot from a 9 mm caliber gun with a hollow projectile.

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\*Should read Friday February 28

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The barrel of the gun was placed on the right eyelid. There was an entrance but not an exit wound since the projectile lodged in the mastoid bone in the cranial cavity.

The bullet was sent to a ballistic's expert; in the final preparations the police are accumulating all the legal proofs from the point of view of a police technician which will act as evidence against the kidnappers.

State of the investigations: In the operations and searches carried out with the cooperation of the provincial police, two individuals were detained for having high-powered weapons and ammunition in their possession. They were arrested for breaking the Federal Arms law and were turned over to the Federal courts to await trial.

It is supposed that they are linked to the extremists Baretta and Figueroa who had apparently been designated to kidnap the American consul. Because of the killing of Baretta and Figueroa the kidnapping was postponed or delayed 48 hours.

The two extremists detained were being interrogated to establish if they knew who carried out the kidnapping of Mr. Egan, but the Federal Judge, Dr. Zamboni Ledesma ordered the two sent to the penitentiary of the City of Cordoba.

It the police can confirm the clues which are being investigated, the results of the inquiries will be broadened.

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